



coming events

Blue Hills Reservation

Department of Conservation and Recreation

DECEMBER 2022 PROGRAMS

All programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. Programs meet at the Houghton's Pond Visitor Center unless otherwise noted. Inclement weather may cancel programs. To confirm or for more information call (857) 208-8498. Please follow all current COVID guidelines. Visit [Mass.gov/COVID](https://www.mass.gov/COVID) for more guidance.

**Fridays,
December 2,
9, 23, 30**

Kidleidoscope, 10:00 am—11:00 am

Explore nature! Join us for a story, activities, and a craft. Activities are indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Suitable for ages 4-10 with an adult. Siblings and friends welcome.

**Saturdays,
December 3,
10, 17, 24, 31**

Family Nature Exploration, 10:00 am—11:00 am

On Saturday mornings, explore what nature has to offer in the Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

December 3, 17 & 31—A Murder Most Fowl: Crows are remarkably social and intelligent animals. These clever birds have long been a source of fascination and lore. See how different cultures have viewed crows throughout history and how these myths are often supported by the newest science.

December 10 & 24—Animal Detectives: Animal tracks tell the story of wildlife in the forest—where they go, what they eat, and who's trying to eat them. Learn how to tell what these animals are up to when no one is around.

**Saturdays,
December 3,
17, 24**

Nice and Easy Hiking Series, 1:00 pm—2:30 pm

Looking to get outdoors and take a gentle, guided hike in the beautiful Blue Hills? Join us for our weekly series of leisurely paced nature hikes (1.5-3 miles long). Learn about nature at your own pace and make some friends along the way. All ages.

**Tuesdays,
December 6,
13, 20, 27**

Nature's Classroom Series, 10:00 am—11:00 am

On Tuesday mornings we will learn all about the natural side of Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

December 6 & 20—Raccoons: A Thief in the Night: Raccoons are more than dumpster divers, they are survivors. Raccoons have long lived alongside humans. Because of some remarkable adaptations, they now thrive in the modern world.

December 13 & 27—Talking Trees: The story of the forest is told in its trees. They are living beings and have strange and fascinating ways to communicate with one another. Learn what these silent giants can tell us if we know how to listen.

MORE PROGRAMS CONTINUED ON OTHER SIDE

Blue Hills Reservation

840 Hillside Street, Milton, MA 02186. Tel. (617) 698-1802

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PROGRAMS CONTINUED

Tuesdays, December 6, 13, 20, 27

Exploring the Blue Hills, 2:30 pm—4:00 pm

On Tuesday afternoons, explore the lesser seen parts of Blue Hills Reservation. For families and adults.

December 6 & 20—Little Blue: Explore the western most hill in the Blue Hills, with a gentle hike around Little Blue. Meets at 2991 MA-138, Canton MA.

December 13 & 27—St. Moritz Pond: Explore beautiful St. Moritz Pond and rocky Rattlesnake Hill. Meets at Shea Rink Parking Lot.

Wednesdays, December 7 & 21

Great Blue Yonder Hike, 2:00 pm—4:00 pm

Meets at Trailside Museum Parking Lot.

Join us on a moderate hike to the highest point in MA south of Boston and enjoy the majestic views from the top of Great Blue Hill. Suitable for adults with hiking experience.

Thursday December 8, 15, 22, 29

History in the Hills, 9:00 am—10:30 am

On Thursday mornings, learn about the history of the Blue Hills Reservation. Accessible for all adults and children over 12.

December 8 & 22—Bakers Chocolate: Learn how Bakers Chocolate transformed Milton and Dorchester's economy, were leaders in the Industrial Revolution, and what became of their bitter-sweet legacy. Accessible lecture at Visitor Center.

December 15 & 29—The Tree Army: During the Great Depression FDR sent out millions of young men to build up and regrow the parks of America. Come learn their incredible story here in the Blue Hills. Accessible, meets at Visitor Center.

Thursdays December 8, 15, 22 & 29

Winter Wonders, 3:00 pm—4:00 pm

Join us to experience the winter wonders of the Blue Hills!

December 8 & 22—Birdsong Solstice: Come see (and hear!) the hardy winter birds of the Blue Hills, from the bright red cardinals to the squawking blue jays to the black-capped chickadees and their tell-tale songs. All ages.

December 15 & 29—Hibernation Holiday: Ever wonder where snakes, turtles, and other cold-blooded animals go when the temperatures drop and the snows fall? Come find out on this fun and informative all ages program.

SPECIAL HIKES

Saturday, December 10

Blue Hills Reservation, 1:00 pm—3:30 pm

Ponkapoag Trail. Moderate, 5-mile hike on level terrain. Meet at Fisherman's Beach at 1100 Randolph Street in Canton.

Sunday, December 18

Blue Hills Reservation, 1:00 pm—2:30 pm

Moderate 3-mile walk on Meadow Road to Madden Road and return via Action Path. Meet at the Donovan School at 123 Reed Street in Randolph.

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